

I sit on the board of directors for WEFT 90.1 FM Champaign Community Radio Station. Our twin-city of Urbana recently received a Low Power FM radio license and numerous community members are committed to getting this new radio station on-air by next summer. Many of the volunteers involved in WEFT are extremely excited to see a second outlet for music and programming within our community; the WEFT Board of Directors has also been supportive of the endeavor. For our local community, WEFT and WRFU 104.5 LPFM (as the new station will be called) offer two of the only locally owned and volunteer-operated FM radio stations -- they are the only FM outlets where any community member can get on-the-air with their own radio show.

Anything the FCC can do to aid and further expand the diversity of people's and perspectives on the public airwaves will receive extraordinary support from both the people affected and a vast majority of the community groups and organizations who are interested in these issues. There is a tremendous amount of energy bubbling up throughout the country -- and countless US residents and citizens are interested in getting "on the air." With the rise of personal computing, media production has become accessible to new constituencies -- and they want a way to share their work with their local communities. Please support LPFM expansion, further open up the public airwaves, and increase diversity and local ownership of broadcast media.